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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims pending

At time of the Action: Claims 1-42.

After this Response: Claims 43-62.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims: 1-42.

Amended claims: None.

New claims: 43-62.

1-42. (Canceled).

43. (New) A method comprising:

randomly retrieving a plurality of blocks of data from a computer-readable media, wherein at least one block of data includes data not contained in a given content;

generating a digest value for each of the plurality of randomly retrieved blocks of data;

comparing each of the digest values to a set of verification data; and determining that the computer-readable media contains an original version of the given content if the digest values match a subset of the verification data.

44. (New) A method according to Claim 43, further comprising allowing access to a functionally equivalent version of the given content if the digest values match a subset of the verification data.

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- 45. (New) A method according to Claim 43, further comprising allowing access to related material if the digest values match a subset of the verification data.
- 46. (New) A method according to Claim 43, wherein generating the digest value for each of the plurality of randomly retrieved blocks of data comprises calculating a cryptographic hash value.
- 47. (New) A method according to Claim 43, wherein the processes of randomly retrieving a plurality of blocks of data, generating digest values, comparing each of the digest values and determining that the computer-readable media contains an original version are performed when a watermark is embedded in the functionally equivalent version of the given content.
- 48. (New) A method according to Claim 43, further comprising:

 partitioning a trusted version of the first content into a plurality of verification data blocks; and

establishing the plurality of verification data by calculating a cryptographic hash value for each of the plurality of verification data blocks.

- 49. (New) One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim 43.
 - 50. (New) A method comprising: receiving a request to access a given content;

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calculating a digest value for each of a set of blocks of data randomly retrieved from a computer-readable media, wherein at least one block of data includes data not contained in the given content;

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verifying whether the received plurality of blocks are from an original version of the given content by comparing the calculated digest values to a set of associated verification digest values; and

controlling access to a functionally equivalent version of the given content if the calculated digests value match a subset of the associated verification digest values.

- 51. (New) The method according to Claim 50, wherein controlling access to a functionally equivalent version of a given content comprises playing a requested music file if the calculated digests value match a subset of the associated verification digest values.
- 52. (New) The method according to Claim 50, wherein controlling access to a functionally equivalent version of a given content comprises launching a requested application program if the calculated digests value match a subset of the associated verification digest values.
- 53. (New) The method according to Claim 50, wherein controlling access to a functionally equivalent version of a given content comprises preventing installation of a requested music file if any of the calculated digest values do not match any associated digest value.

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- 54. (New) The method according to Claim 50, wherein the set of associated verification digest values are stored with the original version of the given content.
- 55. (New) The method according to Claim 50, wherein the set of associated verification digest values are available on an internet web site.
- 56. (New) The method according to Claim 50, further comprising verifying that the set of associated verification digest values come from a known authority.
- 57. (New) One or more computer-readable memories containing a computer program that is executable by a processor to perform the method recited in claim 50.
 - 58. (New) A verification system comprising:
 - a data reading device to read data from a computer-readable media; and
- a verification module coupled to the data reading device, wherein the verification module is adapted to receive a request to access a given content, to request a random set of blocks of data from the computer-readable media that includes at least one block of data that does not contain the given content, to verify whether the received plurality of blocks are from an original version of the given content by comparing digest values of a received set of blocks of data to a corresponding set of known valid digest values, and to control access to a functionally equivalent version of the given content if the calculated digest values match a subset of the known valid digest values.

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59. (New) A verification system as recited in Claim 58, wherein the verification module is further adapted to control access to related material if the calculated digest values match a subset of the known valid digest values.

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- 60. (New) A verification system as recited in Claim 58, wherein the verification module is located in a handheld audio player containing the functionally equivalent version of the given content and the data reading device is located in a computer system coupled to the handheld audio player.
- 61. (New) A verification system as recited in Claim 58, wherein the verification module is locate in a server containing the corresponding set of known valid digest values and the data reading device is located in computer system coupled to the server.
- 62. (New) A verification system as recited in Claim 58, wherein the verification module and the data reading device are coupled to one another across the Internet.